



## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending October 12, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 12, 2003**. Although harvesting activities across the State were halted due to late-week rain showers, the excess precipitation proved to be favorable in areas where winter forages were being planted. In addition, cotton harvest is making headway with excellent yields being reported. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 13 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2002	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Harvested	99	98	98	99	--	--	--	--	--
Cotton	Open Bolls	98	93	97	99	4	6	13	47	30
	Harvested	61	45	30	63					
Rice	Harvested	94	85	82	91					
Sorghum	Harvested	100	99	99	100	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Turning Color	99	98	99	99					
	Shedding Leaves	96	91	95	97	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	82	75	54	69					
Wheat	Planted	40	34	15	22	0	0	18	61	21
	Emerged	25	17	--	8					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	100	99	99	98	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	80	65	48	62	1	11	28	25	35
Cattle						1	7	23	55	14
Pasture						2	13	35	45	5

### County Agent Comments

"Rain stopped all harvesting in Bolivar County. Yield reports continue to be good on everything except later planted rice."

— Don Respons, Bolivar

"Late planted crops are holding farmers out of fields. There is nothing to do but wait."

— Mack Young, Quitman

"Rains within the last 3 days have shut down all fieldwork. Rainfall amounts ranged from 1 to 4 inches in various parts of the area."

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

"Farmers continue to plant ryegrass for winter forage. Corn harvesting is basically completed. Truck croppers summer produce is winding down, but collards and turnips are looking good."

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

"Cattle producers are starting to feed hay. Cool season forages are in need of rain. Cotton harvest is in full swing and yields are excellent."

— Jon Kilgore, Lawrence

“Rain moved into our area this week giving producers who had planted winter forages the needed moisture for germination.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Rains Thursday night stopped the remainder of the harvest. Most crops are in or very close to being completed. A good bit of fieldwork has been done for next year’s crop. Yields have been very good.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Rain Thursday night stopped harvest in some areas. All crops are yielding good and have shown good to excellent quality.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Corn, soybeans and cotton are being harvested. Yields for all crops are very good. Rain delayed harvest near the end of the week.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Rain Thursday night stopped us for the weekend. Cotton is looking good but we will have to wait to see what effect the rain had.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Cotton producers are trying to complete defoliation. Early season soybean harvest is expected to accelerate this week. Hay harvesting is about completed for 2003.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

“Corn harvest is almost complete with good yields. Rains Thursday has stopped harvest efforts. High moisture in soybeans has slowed harvest efforts as well.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“We had 4 inches of rain Friday in Kosciusko, and it has continued off and on for 3 days. Fields have been too wet to work. Some parts of the county only received 1-2 inches. These growers should be able to resume work early this week, while others will lose most of this week's work due to wet fields.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Heavy rain over the last 3 days have put a halt to all field work. We need about 10 to 12 days to complete harvesting of field crops.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“Cool season pastures desperately need rain for acceptable levels of germination and growth. Many producers are delaying planting until significant rainfall is received. We are dry!”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“About half of the ryegrass has been planted and is beginning to come up. Ryegrass will need to be watched close for a few weeks to monitor insect problems. Cattle are in good shape. We need to continue receiving some rain every week to keep adequate soil moisture.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Cotton harvest is almost complete with producers expecting an above average yield this year. Producers are in the process of planting rye grass and recent rain will give the grass the boost needed for growth.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

**This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
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**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician**

**Weather Summary from October 6, 2003 to October 12, 2003 for Mississippi**

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston	84	45	68	65	+3	1.89	+1.33	1	5.38				
Cleveland	82	55	70	66	+4	0.93	+0.50	3	3.44				
Tunica	81	57	69	66	+3	2.00	+1.34	1	3.93	78	69	72	0.12
Extreme/Average	84	45	69	66	+3	1.61	+0.98	2	4.25	78	69	72	0.12
2. North-Central													
Batesville	78	55	68	64	+4	0.27	-0.43	1	3.37				
Calhoun City	77	56	68	65	+3	2.17	+1.54	3	5.29				
Independence	79	55	66	63	+3	1.17	+0.54	2	3.17				
Oxford	81	56	69	64	+5	2.02	+1.25	2	5.49				
Extreme/Average	81	55	68	64	+4	1.41	+0.72	2	4.33				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	77	54	67	63	+4	0.41	-0.29	2	3.58				
Corinth City				65		0.14	-0.56	1	2.44				
Iuka	79	49	65	61	+4	0.22	-0.51	2	6.85				
Ripley	77	55	66	62	+4	0.53	-0.17	3	3.18				
Tupelo	79	58	68			0.95		4	5.16				
Verona				65		0.79	+0.12	2	4.34				0.10
Extreme/Average	79	49	67	64	+3	0.51	-0.21	2	4.26				0.10
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				67		2.50	+1.73	1	5.30				
Rolling Fork				67	+5	0.51	-0.33	4	2.07	86	71	78	
Stoneville	87	59	72	67	+4	1.58	+0.88	3	3.87	82	69	75	0.11
Yazoo City	84	57	71	68	+2	0.66	-0.20	5					
Extreme/Average	83	57	70	68	+2	0.66	-0.20	5					
Extreme/Average	87	57	71	67	+4	1.31	+0.57	3	3.68	86	69	77	0.11
5. Central													
Canton	85	54	67	67	0	1.90	+1.20	4	3.35				
Carthage	84	57	68	66	+2	1.44	+0.74	3	2.84				
Lexington	81	41	65	66	-1	2.82	+2.12	4	5.47				
Eupora				64		1.67	+0.90	2	3.19				
Extreme/Average	85	41	67	66	+1	1.96	+1.20	3	3.71				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	79	56	68	65	+3	1.33	+0.51	2	5.06				0.06
Houston	77	53	66	63	+3	1.16	+0.46	2	4.68				
Louisville	75	57	65	65	0	2.75	+1.98	4	5.56				
State University	82	56	67	65	+2	1.60	+0.90	1	3.26	79	68	72	0.15
Extreme/Average	82	53	67	65	+2	1.71	+0.99	2	4.64	79	68	72	0.11
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	87	54	70	68	+2	0.31	-0.43	4	1.05	85	70	75	
Natchez	84	53	71	69	+2	1.38	+0.54	5	2.11				
Oakley				67		0.50E	-0.20	2	4.09E				
Vicksburg	82	55	71			1.40		5	2.56				
Extreme/Average	87	53	71	68	+3	1.03	+0.26	5	1.91	85	70	75	
8. South-Central													
Collins	83	61	70	67	+3	0.43	-0.34	4	1.83				
Columbia	86	63	72	68	+4	0.22	-0.53	5	1.88				
Tylertown	86	54	71	69	+2	0.70	-0.14	5	3.02				
Extreme/Average	86	54	71	68	+3	0.45	-0.25	5	2.24				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	87	57	71			0.23		3	3.04				
Hattiesburg	84	57	70	69	+1	0.16	-0.58	4	1.25				
Laurel	85	53	70	67	+3	0.31	-0.39	3	3.79				
Newton	84	50	67	65	+2	2.16	+1.46	5	4.11	74	63	68	0.07
Extreme/Average	87	50	69	67	+2	0.72	+0.04	4	3.05	74	63	68	0.07
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	87	54	73	70	+3	0.80	+0.08	3	3.34				
Gulfport	87	62	74	72	+2	2.56	+1.90	4	4.54				
Pascagoula				70		1.31E	+0.47	3	4.42E				
Poplarville				70									
Waveland	83	61	73	70	+3	0.62	+0.01	3	2.56				
Extreme/Average	87	54	73	71	+2	1.32	+0.59	3	3.72				
State	87	41	69	67	+2	1.21	+0.50	3	3.49	86	63	73	0.10

DFN = Departure from Normal.